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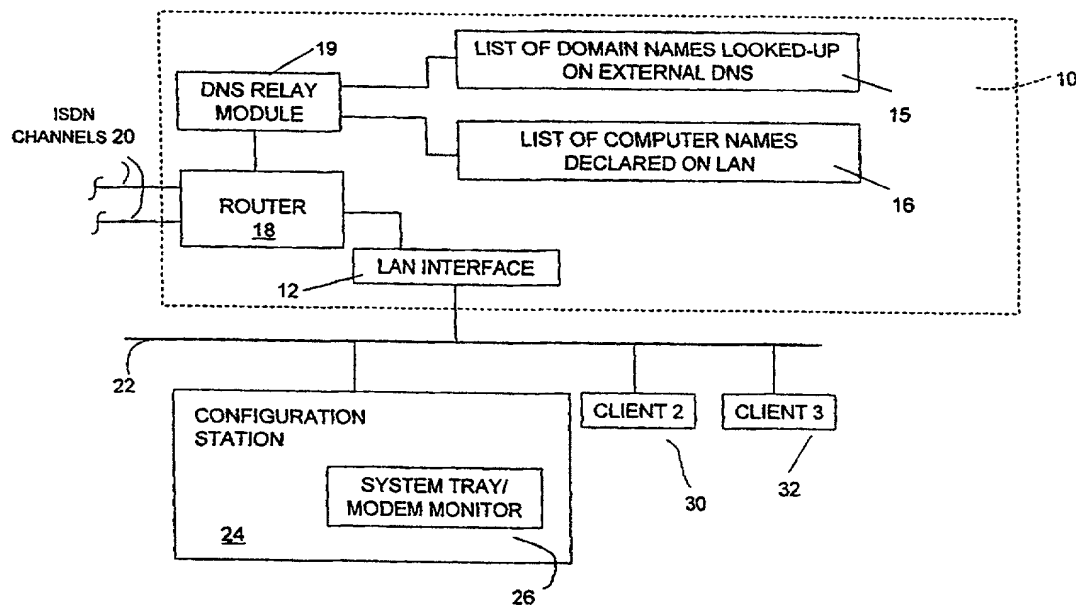
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(54) Title: DNS RELAY MODULE IN A DIGITAL NETWORK MODEM

**(57) Abstract**

The digital network modem has a DNS Relay Module which answers requests for IP addresses using a local store of domain and host names with corresponding IP addresses and forwards the requests to an external DNS if the domain or host name requested is not stored in the local store of addresses. Also, if the numeric address requested is local and in a list of local computer names, the DNS relay module replies to the request acting as a local DNS server. This DNS relay module increases the speed of the request/reply sequence and does not automatically forward all numeric address requests to an external DNS located on a network.